

TRANSMITTAL #4

MEMORANDUM

October 5, 2011

TO: Workforce Development Council

FROM: Roger B. Madsen, Director

SUBJECT: Workforce Investment Act Formula 15% Funds

ACTION REQUESTED: Approval of Plans for WIA Formula 15% Carry-In Funds

BACKGROUND:

The Workforce Investment Act (WIA) funding formula includes the opportunity for the Governor to use 15% of allocated WIA funds to support statewide workforce activities. Currently, the Workforce Development Council has approved using these 15% formula funds to support activities such as basic administrative staff, the WIA management information system (MIS) and financial management costs, the Workforce Development Council expenses, incentives for workforce partners, funding for youth in need, and optional statewide activities such as funding of additional labor market information.

The department has identified unplanned funds to extend options approved by the Council during PY'2010 into PY'2011. Because there is still a great deal of uncertainty about the distribution of funds for the current year, we are recommending a more limited amount of funding for these activities until Congress acts on the PY'2012 budget. Depending upon the outcome, additional funds for these or other activities may be requested.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

Staff recommends that \$250,000 in unplanned Governor's WIA 15% carry-in funds be used for the following priorities during the current program year:

- To provide \$150,000 to continue funding the Idaho Youth Corps (IYC), the department's summer youth employment program during 2011. These funds have been used to encourage matching resources from federal, state, and local government partners as well as private partners to continue the summer youth employment projects that have been successfully administered in 2009 and 2010.

- To provide \$100,000 in additional fund to continue customized training, on-the-job (OJT) training, internships and other training activities to increase business expansion opportunities in support of the department's Business Solutions initiative. These funds have also been used to encourage matching resources from Idaho businesses and workforce partners to leverage these resources as much as possible. These funds have helped to support additional OJT opportunities for WIA customers where we have experienced excess demand for these opportunities beyond the current funds available for the initiative.

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